was 294, out of whom 154 have worked for more than two years and have also completed more than 240 working days.

(b) Some employees of TFAI went on strike on 21st January, 1987.

(c) 12 regular employees have been removed from service for serious acts of indiscipline under the TFAI Employees' Conduct Rules. The number of daily wage staff varies from time to time depending upon the workload.

(d) Out of 12 persons removed from service, 6 belong to Scheduled Castes.

(e) As the TFAI is a Public Sector Undertaking, the Fourth Pay Commission's recommendations are not applicable to its employees.

Financial assistance for cooperative spinning mills in Karnataka

*276. SHRI D. B. CHANDRE GOWDA: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) Whether the Government of Karnataka have urged the Central Government to provide financial assistance to some of the cooperative spinning mills in the State;

(b) if so, what is the reaction of the Central Government thereto; and

(c) by when a decision is likely to be taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA): (a) The Karnataka Government had requested the Union Government to take up with the Industrial Development Bank of India to consider the loan applications of certain cooperative spinning mills in the State.

(b) and (c) The financial institutions feel that adequate spinning capacity already exists in the country and that new spinning units capital cost wise, would not be a viable proposition.

Deployment of spy planes by the U.S.A.

*277. SHRI RAJNI RANJAN SAHU: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the move of US Government to deploy spy planes which can evade detection by radar in all parts of the world;

(b) if so, what is Government's reaction thereto; and

(c) what steps are being taken by Government to safeguard Indian air space?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI NARAYAN DATT TIWARI): (a) Government are aware that US armed forces utilise several types of reconaissance aircraft in different parts of the world;

(b) Government expect all countries to respect the fundamental principles of international law relating to sovereignty and territorial integrity, including the inviolability of national air space of other countries;

(c) Government are alert to developments having a bearing on India's security. Hon'ble members will understand that to divulge the precise measures is deterimental to national security.

Curbing of smuggling on Indo-Bangladesh border

*278. SHRI PARVATHANENI UPENDRA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether an agreement has been reached with the Government of Bangladesh to keep a vigil on the border to curb illegal entry and smuggling which is affecting the economy of both the countries; and

(b) if so, what measures are being taken to effectively implement the agreement?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI BUTA SINGH): (a) In the annual talks held in April 87 between Director General Border Security Force and Director General Bangladesh Rifles to discuss various common problems, both the parties have agreed to cooperate with each other in curbing effectively the illegal entry and smuggling on Indo-Bangladesh border.

(b) The BSF on Indo-Bangladesh border is constantly on the alter. The Government of India have also sanctioned 29 additional Bns. of BSF in a 5-year period for increased vigilance on Indo-Bangladesh border.

Building of Intermediate Range Ballistic Missile System by the Developing Countries

*279. SHRI KAPIL VERMA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the reported US move in seeking Soviet cooperation in preventing developing countries, particullarly India, from building an intermediate range ballistic missile system and that the Soviet Union's response thereto is not negative;

(b) if so, what is Government's information and reaction thereto;

(c) whether it is a fact that seven western nations have agreed to ban export of missile-related technologies to non-nuclear countries; and

(d) if so, what is Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI NARAYAN DATT TIWARI):: (a) Government has seen newspaper reports that the USA in its statement announcing fresh policy guidelines for export of unclear capable missiles and related technology has stated that it would wel come the adherence of all States to these guidelines. To the best of our knowledge, there has been no reaction from the Soviet Union so far.

(b) to (d) Seven countries—the United States of America, Canada, Italy, Britain, Japan; France and the Federal Republic of Germany announced a common policy in 16th April, 1987 to control the exports of ballistic missiles, capable of delivering conventional or nuclear war heads, and missile related technologies.

Since the announcement involves complex issues affecting our peaceful space programmes, Government's reactions must await a thorough study of all issues by the concerned Ministries and Departments.

Balance of trade position with Italy

*280. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN:

SHRI LAL K. ADVANI:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the balance of trade position with Italy during the last three Plan periods and also during the last three years, year-wise;

(b) the number of trade collaborations agreed to or being processed with Italian firms or concerns and the value thereof; and

(c) how much worth of such collaboration agreements have been completed/remain to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. SHIV SHANKER): (a) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House. (See below)

(b) No trade collaboration agreements have been approved by Government with Italian firms.

(c) Does not arise.